1452

PAM.
MISC.

Boston Bapt. Female
Society

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Boston Baptist Female Society

FOR MISSIONARY PURPOSES.

ORGANIZED OCT. 9, 1800.

CONSTITUTION ALTERED AND AMENDED,

DECEMBER, 1829.

Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.—Jesus.

Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.—Jesus.

Help those women which laboured with me in the Gospel.—Paul.

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY TRUE AND GREENE.

1830.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
Columbia University Libraries

https://archive.org/details/constitutionofbo00bost

CONSTITUTION.

Animated by the noble exertions which are making in various parts of the Christian world to spread the knowledge of divine truth, and by the success with which the great Head of the church has seen fit in many instances to crown the united endeavors of his dear people, a number of females, feeling interested in the glorious cause, and desirous of promoting it, have formed themselves into a Society to raise an annual collection for the express purpose of aiding missions. The destitute and affecting situation of thousands of our fellow creatures calls aloud to charity; and while a needle can be instrumental of spreading the knowledge of a Saviour's name, shall a Christian female forbear to exercise it in the best of causes? No: in imitation of those who ministered to the necessities of our divine Lord, we will offer our mite for the relief of his elect body.

The blessings which have attended the various efforts which have been made to extend the triumphs of the cross seem to justify the conclusion that the glorious promise to the children of Israel, "Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours;" will be fulfilled to the faithful in all ages. Meekly engaged in contending for the faith of the gospel, we have every thing to encourage us. The line of duty marked out; with the Banner of Peace in our hand, and the Captain of salvation at our head,

we may undauntedly traverse the wide spread plain of benevolence, confident of imparting the richest blessings to our fellow men, and promoting the declarative glory of God.

With a view to accomplish the designs of the Institution, the following articles are adopted for its regulation,

ARTICLE 1st.

This Society shall be distinguished by the name of The Boston Baptist Female Society for Missionary Purposes.

ARTICLE 2d.

It shall consist of females, who are disposed to contribute their mite towards so noble a design as the diffusion of gospel light among the shades of darkness and superstition.

ARTICLE 3d.

The permanent support of a suitable Missionary in this city, shall be the society's primary object. Whatever may be raised over and above a sufficiency for this, shall be appropriated to such missionary operations as the openings of Providence may suggest to be duty. All necessary expenses shall be defrayed from the funds.

ARTICLE 4th.

The meetings shall be holden on the *first Monday Afternoon* of every month, at such place as may be appointed.

ARTICLE 5th.

The time shall be devoted to religious exercises, unless indispensably necessary to attend to business of importance.

ARTICLE 6TH.

The annual subscription shall be from two dollars down to fifty cents, as circumstances shall dictate. Those who possess the ability, it is hoped will do much more. Life membership, *twenty dollars.*

ARTICLE 7TH.

The Annual Meeting, shall be the first Monday in October, when shall be chosen a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, Trustees and Collectors; who, together, shall constitute a Board for the transaction of business. Any number of those, who shall be present at a regularly notified meeting, shall be competent to proceed to business in fifteen minutes after the appointed hour.

The Board so chosen, shall appoint from among themselves a Committee of Reference, to whom the Missionary may apply for advice, and make known his proceedings. He will also be expected to make a report to the Board and Society whenever officially requested.

They may also if necessary, elect an Assistant Secretary, and have a right to fill vacancies.

ARTICLE 8TH.

The Board shall meet by a notice from the Secretary, whenever the President, with the concurrence of two other members, shall direct.

The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, &c. will be expected to fulfil the duties appropriate to their respective offices.

ARTICLE 9TH.

The Society may open and hold correspondence with other female benevolent societies, which letters may be filed by the Secretary.

ARTICLE 10TH.

Any member shall have a right to withdraw her name, by signifying her wish to the Secretary.

ARTICLE 11TH.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at an annual meeting, by a majority present.

OFFICERS

FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

President,

MRS. THOMAS BALDWIN.

Vice Presidents,

MRS. DANIEL SHARP,
MRS. C. P. GROSVENOR,
MRS. J. D. KNOWLES,
MRS. HOWARD MALCOM,
MRS. M. L. O'BRIEN.

Secretary and Treasurer,

MISS M. WEBB.

Trustees,

MRS. HEMAN LINCOLN,	MRS. E. CUMMINGS,
MRS. L. T. COOK,	MRS. J. B. JONES,
MRS. S. RIDGEWAY,	MRS. I. MACOMBER,
MRS. C. H. JONES,	MRS. E. SMITH.

Collectors,

Mrs. F. Shelton,	Miss T. Rogers,
Mrs. C. Cunningham,	Miss M. A. Quincy,
Mrs. H. Henchman,	Miss L. C. Jepson,
Mrs. Converse,	Miss L. A. Jones,
Mrs. S. Lamson,	Miss S. Griggs,
Mrs. J. Chorley,	Miss M. Clough,

Mrs. George Homer, and Miss M. Doubt, members of the Board for life.

CIRCULAR.

"I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord," said the holy psalmist, in view of the mercies he had received from the hand of God. And in imitation of his example, this society is called upon, to render praise and thanksgiving for the rich and unnumbered blessings which have been conferred upon it, during a period of almost thirty years.

Especially is its gratitude demanded, for the late interpositions of providence by which it has been much enlarged, and its treasury replenished. The object it has immediately in view, viz. the permanent support of a missionary in this city, is highly important. Its utility has been tested by more than twelve years, experience, and it is now presented to the kind consideration of our Christian friends, in confident hope and expectation, that members will be disposed to "*come up to help of the Lord*," and contribute worthily of their substance in aid of this work. Among all the charities bestowed on the poor, what so needful, so salutary, as "*the glorious gospel of the blessed God?*" In the hour of affliction and death how appropriate are the offices of a sympathizing faithful minister! To the hardened, impenitent sinner, how important the admonitory voice of the messenger of God, who is taught

by the spirit of inspiration, that he must not *shun to declare the whole counsel of God, whether men will hear, or whether they will forbear.*

That these privileges may be extended to all, it is necessary that faithful laborious ministers be supported, who are willing to deny themselves, take up the cross, and go into the highways and hedges, in pursuance of the object the Saviour had in view, when he agonized in the garden, and laid down his life on mount Calvary. And for the accomplishment of this, the friends of the Saviour are now solicited to contribute. The funds of the society are inadequate to the purpose without a powerful effort to increase and sustain them. We therefore present the motive urged by an apostle, "*God loves a cheerful giver.*"

Jesus himself gave it in evidence of his advent to this world, that "*the poor had the gospel preached to them.*" Let us hail them as harbingers of his glorious spiritual reign on earth; the efforts now making to give the gospel to the *poor*. And let every disciple of Jesus be emulous to do his full share of labour, aware that "THE NIGHT COMETH WHEN NO MAN CAN WORK."